



New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service
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In cooperation with:

New Jersey Department of Agriculture
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey Prospective Plantings for 2005

NEW JERSEY'S CORN AND SOYBEAN ACREAGE BOTH DOWN

As of March 1, 2005, New Jersey farmers intended to plant less acreage of corn and soybeans this year. All hay, barley, sweet potato, and winter wheat acreage remained unchanged from the previous year.

Barley planted acreage is expected to total 3,000, unchanged from a year ago. Last year, barley planted acreage was at the lowest point on record since 1938. The record book began in 1926.

Corn planted acreage is expected to total 78,000, down 8,000 acres, or 9 percent below a year ago. If realized, this will be the lowest number of planted corn acres on record in the state. The record book for planted acreage began in 1926 when New Jersey producers planted 191,000 acres of corn. Corn acreage is expected to be down due to low corn prices and high fuel and fertilizer costs.

All hay acreage intended for harvest is expected to total 120,000, unchanged from a year ago. In fact, all hay acreage for harvest has remained unchanged since 1996.

Soybeans planted acreage is expected to total 100,000, down 5,000 acres, or 5 percent below a year ago. Producers were asked if Asian Rust was a factor in their planting intentions. In the Northeastern Region (DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA), 12 percent of the soybean farm operators who were aware of Asian Rust reported that it was a factor in their planting intentions. Forty-four percent of these operators said they decreased their soybean planting intentions in 2005.

Sweet potato acreage is expected to total 1,200 acres, unchanged from a year ago.

Winter wheat planted acreage is expected to total 28,000, unchanged from a year ago. In 2004, winter wheat planted acreage was at an all time record low in New Jersey. The record book began in 1909, when planted acreage was 87,000.

Prospective Plantings Compared to 2004 Acreage: New Jersey and United States, March 1, 2005

	New Jersey			US		
	2004	2005 ^{1/}	% Change	2004	2005 ^{1/}	% Change
--- 1,000 acres ---				--- 1,000 acres ---		
Barley	3	3	NC	4,527	3,974	(12)
Corn	86	78	(9)	80,930	81,413	1
Hay, All ^{2/}	120	120	NC	61,916	62,940	2
Soybeans	105	100	(5)	75,208	73,910	(2)
Sweet Potato	1.2	1.2	NC	97.4	94.9	(3)
Winter Wheat	28	28	NC	43,350	41,613	(4)

^{1/} Intended planting for 2005 as indicated by reports from farmers.

^{2/} Intended area harvested for 2005 as indicated by reports from farmers.

NC = No change.

() = negative value.

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